

IN THE DRAWINGS

Attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 10 and 11. These sheets, respectively including Fig. 10 and Fig. 11, replace the original sheets including the corresponding figures.

In each of the attached sheets, a parenthesized subtitle of "Prior Art" has been added to denote that Figs. 10 and 11 are illustrating conventional system and apparatus which belong to prior art.

Attachments:

Replacement sheets (2)

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7, 9, 11, 13, 15-19, 21 and 23-29 are presently active in this case, claims 1, 4, 6, 9, 11, 15, 18 and 21 amended, claims 8, 10, 12, 14, 20 and 22 canceled, and claims 27-29 added by way of the present amendment. The specification has also been amended by way of the present amendment.

In outstanding Office Action, the election restriction requirement, mailed January 18, 2007, was made final and claims 23-26 were withdrawn from consideration; the drawings were objected to for informalities; the specification was objected to for not having proper arrangement, and for other informalities; claims 4, 6, 8, 10, 18, 20, and 22 were objected to for informalities. Claim 14 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph; claims 1-3, 11, and 15-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Belkhiter (US 4,928,221) in view of Lauchnor (US 4,757,459), claim 12 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Belkhiter in view of Lauchnor, and further in view of Nagamine (US 4,484,286), claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Belkhiter in view of Lauchnor, in view of Nagamine, and further in view of Seaton (US 5,591,299); and claim 14 was indicated as being allowable if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

With regard to the objection to the drawings, the legend of "Prior Art" has been added to Figs. 10 and 11, within parentheses. Further, the expressions "(Fig. 3)" and "(Fig. 1)" are deleted from page 14, lines 21 and 23 of the original specification, respectively. Therefore, the objection to the drawings is overcome.

With regard to the objection to the specification as not having proper arrangement, a substitute specification is submitted herewith to rearrange the contents of the specification in

conformity with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.77(b). Applicants note that the substitute specification only rearranges the original specification and does not contain new matter. Such rearrangement required extensive mark-ups to the specification, which would obscure the other needed changes to the specification. Therefore, for clarity, further amendments to the specification which address the Abstract and drawing objections, as well as discovered typographical errors, are shown as amendments to the clean copy of the substitute specification. The language of the abstract has been amended such that the number of words included does not exceed 150, and such that the abstract describes the disclosure of the invention sufficiently. Throughout the entire specification, minor typographical errors have been corrected without introducing any new matter. Thus, the objection to the specification is overcome.

With regard to the claim objections, Applicants have canceled claims 8, 10, 12, 14, 20 and 22, and amended claims 4-7, 9, 18, 19 and 21 in such a way that each of these claims depends from a single claim. Accordingly, the claim objections are overcome.

Turning to the merits, Applicants first wish to thank Examiner Shechtman for the indication that claim 14 would be allowed if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and to include the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims. In order to expedite issuance of a patent in this case, claim 11 has been amended to include the features of claim 14 and intervening claim 12, in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Specifically, claim 11 now recites that the data file defines a control of an operation of each of the devices corresponding to the macro files and also defining a control of another device related to the operation of said each of the devices, and the data file further defines an alarming operation for reporting a completion of the control of the operation of each of the devices. Thus, independent claim 11 is now in condition for allowance.

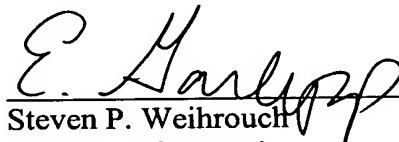
Further, although claims 8 and 10 were not treated on the merits in the Office Action due to their improper multiple dependent status, these claims include substantially the same features that were indicated in the Office Action as allowable with regard to claim 14. Independent claim 1 has now been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claims 8 and 10. Therefore, independent claim 1 is also in condition for allowance. Similarly, claims 20 and 22 include substantially the same features that were indicated as allowable with respect to claim 14. Claim 15 has now been amended to include the subject matter of claims 20 and 22. Therefore, independent claim 15 is also in condition for allowance.

For the reasons discussed above, independent claims 1, 11 and 15 patentably define over the cited references. As the remaining dependent claims in this case depend from claim 1, 11 or 15, these dependent claims also patentably define over the cited references. In this regard, Applicants have added new claims 27-29 depending from claims 1, 11 and 15 respectively.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application. The present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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